

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
GREAT FALLS DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CR 24-107-GF-BMM

Plaintiff,

vs.

AMENDED
SCHEDULING ORDER

MARK JUSTIN DENNY,

Defendant.

Following an arraignment on January 7, 2025, **IT IS HEREBY
ORDERED** that following schedule applies

Jury Trial Date:	March 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Missouri River Federal Courthouse Great Falls, Montana
Final Pretrial Conference:	March 11, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.
Discovery Due:	January 10, 2025
Motions deadline (including motions in limine):	February 11, 2025
Plea agreement deadline or Notice of Intent to Proceed to Trial:	February, 25 2025
JERS disc, Jury instructions and trial briefs (fully briefed) deadline:	March 4, 2025

This schedule must be strictly adhered to by the parties.

To efficiently prepare for trial within the times set above,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

2. On or before the discovery deadline set above, the government shall, upon request of the attorneys for the defendants, provide to the defendant all discoverable materials specified in Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16(a). The government shall make specific disclosure of its intent to use any statements or confessions made by the defendant. If defendant questions the admissibility of such statement or confession, the hearing required by *Jackson v. Denno*, 378 U.S. 368 (1964), shall be held at least ten (10) days prior to trial.

3. Pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland* and its progeny—as confirmed in the Court’s Rule 5(f) order—the government has a continuing obligation to produce all evidence required by law and the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963) (holding that due process requires disclosure of “evidence [that] is material either to guilt or to punishment” upon request); *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S. 419, 437-38 (1995) (holding that the obligation to disclose includes evidence “known only to police investigators and not to the prosecutor,” and that “the individual prosecutor has a duty to learn of any favorable evidence known to others acting on the government’s behalf . . . , including the police”); *United States v. Agurs*, 427 U.S. 97, 107 (1976) (holding that the duty to disclose exculpatory evidence applies even when there has been no request by the accused); *Giglio v.*

United States, 405 U.S. 150, 153–54 (1972) (holding that *Brady* encompasses impeachment evidence). The government’s obligation to provide exculpatory evidence pursuant to *Brady* in a timely manner is not diminished either by the fact that such evidence also constitutes evidence that must be produced later pursuant to the Jencks Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3500, or by the fact that such evidence need not be produced according to Rule 16. *See United States v. Bernard*, 623 F.2d 551, 556 (9th Cir. 1979) (“*Brady* exists as an independent foundation to preserve evidence . . .”). Where doubt exists as to the usefulness of evidence, the government should resolve such doubts in favor of full disclosure. *United States v. Van Brandy*, 726 F.2d 548, 552 (9th Cir. 1984). Accordingly, the Court, *sua sponte*, directs the government to produce to the defendant in a timely manner all potentially exculpatory or otherwise favorable evidence as to either the defendant’s guilt or punishment without regard to materiality. *See United States v. Safavian*, 233 F.R.D. 12, 16 (D.D.C. 2005) (“The prosecutor cannot be permitted to look at the case pretrial through the end of the telescope an appellate court would use post-trial. Thus, the government must always produce any potentially exculpatory or otherwise favorable evidence

without regard to how the withholding of such evidence might be viewed—with

the benefit of hindsight—as affecting the outcome of trial.”). A “timely

manner” means:

(a) *Brady* material known at the time of indictment (other than *Giglio* impeachment material) must be produced to defense counsel no later than two weeks following the defendant’s first appearance in this District, regardless of whether the parties are engaged in plea discussion;

(b) *Brady* material (other than *Giglio* impeachment material) that becomes known to the government following the filing of the indictment must be disclosed, absent exceptional circumstances, within two weeks of when it becomes known, and, in any event, no later than four weeks prior to any trial or guilty plea;²

(c) absent exceptional circumstances, *Giglio* material must be disclosed four weeks prior to the date of the start of trial or guilty plea and *Giglio* material developed less than four weeks before trial must be disclosed immediately.

4. The parties are under a continuing duty of disclosure and discovery of materials set forth herein, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16(c). The government has a continuing obligation to seek *Brady* and *Giglio* material from law enforcement and regulatory agencies that are or have been involved in the prosecution of the defendant or in parallel proceedings or

investigations involving the defendant. If **expert witnesses** are engaged, the parties shall disclose 12 days before trial, and fully comply with the requirements of Rule 16(a)(1)(G) and Rule 16(b)(1)(C), respectively.

5. Motions: All pretrial motions, other than motions to enter a guilty plea, must be filed, along with a brief in support, on or before the motions deadline indicated above. A response brief is due on or before the response deadline indicated above. An optional reply brief may be filed within seven (7) calendar days of the filing date of the response brief. Parties not filing electronically must be served with any motion.

Suppression Motions: To facilitate hearings on suppression motions, the parties are **required** to submit supporting factual documentation with motions to suppress - *e.g.* affidavits, tapes, Miranda waiver forms, etc. Response briefs (and reply briefs, if submitted) should state **with particularity** the factual issues remaining in dispute for resolution at a suppression hearing.

6. Hearings & Oral Arguments: Parties shall provide an alphabetized index of cases expected to be referenced, with citations, to the Court Reporter immediately prior to any oral argument or trial.

7. All requests for service of subpoenas by the United States Marshal must be no later than twenty-one (21) days before trial. Except for good cause shown, service of subpoenas after said date is the responsibility of counsel. The

provision of Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 17 must be complied with before any subpoena is issued.

8. Calling witnesses at trial: When a witness is called to testify at trial, counsel shall provide to the clerk of court **four (4) copies** of a single page document providing the following information about the witness: 1) the full name and current address of the witness; 2) whether the witness has given a statement (taped), a written statement, an interview with government agents (other than an AUSA), or grand jury testimony; 3) a brief description of the nature and substance of the witness's testimony; 4) a listing of each exhibit to which the witness may refer during direct examination. See Form J, Local Rules Appendix.

9. Any petition for a writ of habeas corpus for testimony or prosecution, along with a proposed order, must be filed no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the trial date.

10. The United States shall submit a trial brief when it submits jury instructions. Defendant may submit a trial brief. All trial briefs shall include legal authority for the party's position on all legal and evidentiary issues. **All trial briefs must be filed with the Clerk of Court and served on the other parties ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIAL.**

11. In the absence of a signed plea agreement by the date specified in paragraph 1, the Clerk of Court will order a jury. Except for good cause shown, no

plea agreement will be considered by the Court thereafter. Late filing may result in assessment of costs or the loss of the offense level reduction available pursuant to U.S.S.G. 3E1.1. **The Offer of Proof will be filed with the Court two days before the change of plea hearing. Plea agreements will be filed with the Court two days before the change of plea hearing and shall state clearly whether they are made pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c)(1)(B) or 11(c)(1)(C).**

12. Proposed *voir dire* questions shall be filed at the same time as proposed jury instructions, **ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIAL**. A WordPerfect version of the questions shall also be e-mailed to sara_luoma@mtd.uscourts.gov.

13. Verdict Form: The parties shall submit a joint proposed verdict form with the proposed jury instructions by the date indicated in Paragraph 1. If parties are unable to agree on a verdict form, each party shall submit an individual proposed verdict form.

14. JURY INSTRUCTIONS:

(a) The parties shall jointly prepare a set of jury instructions upon which they agree (proposed joint instructions). These proposed jury instructions shall include all necessary stock criminal instructions. If necessary, each party may also prepare a set of proposed supplemental instructions if different from the agreed joint instructions. **No two**

instructions shall be submitted with the same number.

(b) Filing of Joint Proposed Jury Instructions and Joint

Proposed Verdict Form: By the date set forth in

paragraph 1, **ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIAL**, any party

filing electronically shall (1) file one working copy of the

Joint Proposed Jury Instructions and Joint Proposed

Verdict Form, and (2) e-mail the same documents, plus a

clean copy of each, to bmm_propord@mtd.uscourts.gov.

(c) Electronic Filers's Supplemental Proposed Jury

Instructions and Separate Verdict Forms: By the date set

forth in paragraph 1, each party shall (1) file one working

copy of its supplemental proposed Jury Instructions,

together with its proposed verdict form if the parties do

not jointly propose one; and (2) e-mail the same

documents, plus a clean copy of each, to

bmm_propord@mtd.uscourts.gov.

(d) Conventional Filers's Supplemental Proposed Jury

Instructions and Separate Verdict Forms: By the date set

forth in paragraph 1, **ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIAL**,

each party shall (1) deliver to the Clerk of Court in the

Division of venue one working copy of its supplemental proposed Jury Instructions, together with its proposed verdict form if the parties do not jointly propose one; and (2) e-mail the same documents, plus a clean copy of each, to bmm_propord@mtd.uscourts.gov.

15. FORMAT OF JURY INSTRUCTIONS

(a) The **clean copy** shall contain

- 1) a heading reading "Instruction No. ____@, and
- 2) the text of the instruction.

(b) The **working copy** shall contain

- (1) a heading reading "Instruction No. ____@,
- (2) the text of the instruction,
- (3) the number of the proposed joint or supplemental instruction,
- (4) the legal authority for the instruction, and
- (5) the title of the instruction; i.e., the issue of law addressed by the proposed instruction.

(c) Jury instructions shall be prepared in 14-point Times New Roman font.

16. The parties are advised that final instructions for submission to the jury will be settled in chambers, on the record, prior to closing argument, at which time counsel may present argument and make objections.

17. All instructions shall be short, concise, and understandable and neutral statements of the law. Argumentative instructions are improper, will not be given, and should not be submitted. The parties are strongly encouraged to submit proposed instructions taken from the current Manual of Model Criminal Jury Instructions for the Ninth Circuit.

18. The parties should also note that any modifications of instructions from statutory authority, Ninth Circuit pattern instructions, or DeVitt and Blackmar (or any other form instructions), must specifically state modification made to the original form instruction and the authority supporting the modification.

19. **Exhibit Lists, Exhibits and Witness Lists:** The United States shall use exhibit numbers 1-499 and defendants shall use 500 and up. In no event shall two or more parties use identical exhibit numbers. The United States shall e-mail Sara Luoma, their exhibits, along with their exhibit list four working days prior to the trial date set in paragraph 1, **ONE WEEK BEFORE TRIAL**, to sara_luoma@mtd.uscourts.gov. If the exhibits are over 20 pages, the United States

will submit a hard copy to the Court. The witness lists are due to the Court four working days prior to the trial date set in paragraph 1 by e-mail to sara_luoma@mtd.uscourts.gov. **Defense counsel shall provide a copy of their witness and exhibit list to the clerk the morning of trial before the Final Pretrial Conference. The parties are advised to comply with Local Rule 5.1 regarding the filing of exhibits after trial.**

20. Jury Lists: Local Rule CR 55.1 requires the Clerk of Court to seal the list of all trial jurors and prospective jurors called for each criminal case immediately at the conclusion of trial. Such lists shall remain sealed unless otherwise ordered by the Court. All juror lists retained by defense counsel shall not be released to a defendant without express written Order of the Court, upon formal motion.

21. The parties shall be prepared to use the Jury Evidence Recording System (JERS). JERS is available through the court. It allows jurors to use a touch-screen to see the evidence admitted at trial in the jury room during their deliberations. Detailed information about how to use JERS, including contact information for District personnel who can explain further, is found on the Court's website, <http://www.mtd.uscourts.gov/>, under the heading "Attorneys". Parties must contact the Clerk's office for technical assistance for the use of JERS by the time of the final pretrial conference in the case, and

in no event, no less than two weeks before trial.

22. Failure to comply with any of the above requirements may subject the non-complying party and/or its attorneys to sanctions.

DATED this 16th day of January, 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Brian Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Brian Morris, Chief District Judge
United State District Court